

MISS ELIZABETH C. STOKES, WHO WILL WED A POPULAR CLUBMAN IN THE SPRING.



THE engagement of Miss Elizabeth C. Stokes and Jules J. Vatable was formally announced to their society friends yesterday. Miss Stokes is the second daughter of Thomas Stokes, of No. 8 West Fifty-third street, and is a great heiress. She was introduced to society two seasons ago. Her mother, who died some years ago, was a Miss Cossitt, sister of the two well-known society matrons, Mrs. George E. Dodge and Mrs. A. D. Julliard. Jules J. Vatable is the son of August Vatable. He belongs to the youngest set of society, and is very popular. He is a member of several clubs, including the Racquet, and is a graduate of Columbia, '94. The wedding of the young couple will be an event of early Spring.

NEW YORK SARAH WINS HER CASE.

Miss Knight Gains Title to the Property She Bought.

The Mrs. Sarah A. Knight, of Havre de Grace, Maryland, backed down from her loud claims to the ownership of the premises, No. 11 West Twenty-eighth street, this city, yesterday, and as a result, Miss Sarah A. Knight, of New York, now has the undisputed title to the property. But according to counsel for the maiden Sarah A., the end is not yet, and criminal proceedings may be instituted against certain persons who attempted to secure possession of the property for the widowed Sarah A., of Maryland.

The matter came up in the Supreme Court, yesterday, before Justice Cohen. It will be remembered that some seven years ago the maiden Sarah A. bought the property in Twenty-eighth street as an investment, paying to the Chemical Bank the sum of \$60,000. This purchase she performed from Baltimore, and the deeds were sent there by mail. In the meantime she had left that city, at about the same time as had the widowed Sarah A. The latter intended for the maiden Sarah to be sent to the widow Sarah, at Havre de Grace. This Sarah remembers that wealthy relatives living in New York had assured her many years ago that some day they would place her beyond want, and she claims that when the deeds arrived she thought it was the long looked for property.

So, after a certain lapse of time, she decided the property for a handsome consideration to Thomas C. Enos, of Havre de Grace, who attempted to collect rental from the property, only to discover that a Sarah A. Knight was already performing that pleasant office. Then came the litigation. The widowed Sarah kept the wires hot telling the New York papers the confusion into which she would plunge the maiden Sarah when the case should come to trial.

Yesterday, however, when the case was called on for the Havre de Grace widow and Thomas C. Enos, a Washington lawyer, O. H. Budlong, arose and asked the Court for leave to withdraw. He said Mrs. Knight had made her claims to the property under a misapprehension. This summary dismissal of the matter did not please former Assistant District Attorney Osborne, counsel for Miss Knight, and he insisted that Mr. Budlong be put upon the stand to tell what he knew about the matter. Mr. Budlong, evidently embarrassed, said he had been called into the case by a Dr. Robert Johnson, of Washington. That was all he knew about it. No thought of any possible fraud had entered his mind.

"Well," said Mr. Osborne, "that does not mean that we must drop the criminal proceedings against this Dr. Johnson."

"I can't help that," responded Mr. Budlong, somewhat wearily.

Justice Cohen entered an order of an additional fee of \$2,000 against Thomas Enos, which he will be compelled to pay ultimately, making his speculation in New York really somewhat expensive.

The widowed Sarah A. was not in court, although she had announced her intention of coming to this city to fight. The maiden Sarah was present, however, and left the court room smiling.

"There may be several thousand Sarah A. Knights in this country," she said, "and each one of them had as good a claim to this estate as did the Sarah A. of Havre de Grace. I am glad to get my property back. For I paid \$65,000 in cash for it, and it is now worth \$80,000. I think that when I die," she added reflectively, "I shall found a home for indigent Sarah A. Knights. The house in Twenty-eighth street could very easily be converted into such an institution."

Washington, Dec. 13.—Dr. Robert E. L. Johnson left Washington about a year ago to establish a go to the north part of New York State. Nothing is now known of him or his whereabouts.

Well-Known Oysterman Missing. Lenox S. Lake, a wholesale oyster dealer, who has been well known in Gansevoort Market for twenty years, has been missing from his home, at No. 140 Perry street, for a week. He is thirty years of age, and was last seen by a friend at the bicycle race in Madison Square Garden.

Man Wants but little here below, but he wants quick. How about a little Journal "Wants" that brings quick results? 1,768 more printed last Sunday than same Sunday last year.

THIS WIFE TOO WRETCHED TO WEEP

Husband Dead, Children Starving, She Is Dazed by Misfortune.

Here are the facts: so simple they can not be called a tragedy, yet the husband is dead and the wife and babies are starving. That is no tragedy, for the man never did anything more heroic than stick to the hopeless struggle until he died; a more honest chap, who loved his wife and babies, whose heart bled so that they were starved, perhaps it lacked the strength to keep on beating and bursting—when a less loving heart would have survived.

But here are the facts. Martin Schlessman and his wife, Anna, came here from Germany ten years ago. They were young—she but twenty-two, he three years set were hopeful of health and success, and they mean happiness in their new home. But there was the common lot: there was sickness, which consumed the savings; there were enforced periods of idleness for him, when there could be no saving. He was a baker, and those in that trade are never sure of steady employment.

Three babies came, one six years ago, one three, and the third only three months ago. Martin went from one East Side bake shop to another, working when he could find work to do, hunting for it at other times. Anna, the wife, was very, very, too weak to do any work besides caring for the three children. A month ago there was hope in the little home in the second floors of the tenement. No, Mrs. Schlessman, who promised to last over the Christmas holidays, at least, and there was even a prospect that a bit of green evergreen tree could be brought home, and some kind of a Christmas merry-making be arranged for the babies.

But where Martin resided was a cellar, so low he could not stand up, and so damp his feet were always wet, and yesterday afternoon he died.

Anna, the widow, was not even weeping when she went to a kindly German woman neighbor who was better to do in the world, and told her story—husband dead, children without food. It was so very much to face all at once, and she herself was so sick, and the children at home were so helpless, she could not even weep.

The kindly neighbor took food to the stricken home, and then consulted with her husband, who advised her to go to the Journal office and tell her story. The immediate necessities of Anna, the widow, were relieved when she went from the Journal office, but there are winter days to come, and the children must be clothed and fed.

ANDREW MACK is back again, singing his sweetest songs and winning the same applause that always greet him when he returns to Gotham. Every time he comes among us he brings some sweetly sentimental and delightful song that carries one away with him to the border lands of joy. This time he is singing in his play "An Irish Gentleman," L. C. Wedge's descriptive song, "Life's Game of Chess." The great Sunday Journal next week will present to its readers with a copy of the song in a double edition superbly illustrated and containing eight sheets. It is a most astounding novelty in music publication and will be superior to anything heretofore issued by the Journal.

A temper-wrecker—wash-day with soap. Standing on feet, hard work in the midst of soiled clothes and fetid steam, aching back, wear and tear to things washed—enough to make any one grimy! Fine occupation for a civilized woman!

A temper-soother—wash-day with Pearlina—wash-day with the unpleasant features left out. Easier, quicker, better, healthier. No woman can find fault with it. Soaking, boiling, rinsing, instead of rubbing on a washboard.

Millions of Pearlina

PARK GYMNASIUM IN THE OPEN AIR.

Athletic Associations Want Such an Institution for Poor Children.

The first attempt to establish a public open-air gymnasium in New York is now being considered by the Park Board, the members of which agree that such an institution will be an excellent thing for the poor children of the city. At a meeting of the Board yesterday Bartow S. Weeks, representing the Athletic Union, the Amateur Athletic Union, the New York District Athletic Union, the Athletic League of the Y. M. C. A., the Association for the Advancement of Physical Education, the Inter-scholastic Athletic Association and the Social Reform Club appeared before the body and asked that it consider some plans relative to the establishment of such a gymnasium in East River Park.

Mr. Weeks suggested that the proposed gymnasium be built on the north side of the park, and submitted diagrams of various kinds of apparatus which he thought would make the gymnasium complete.

The establishing of an open-air gymnasium was first suggested to the Park Board on October 12, and it was then asked that a certain section of East River Park be set aside for this purpose, and that an appropriation be made which would sustain the institution for the summer months. It is estimated that five hundred children can be engaged at one time upon the ground asked for by Mr. Weeks. When the apparatus is fitted to the limits of its safe and proper use, the gate entrance to the grounds is to be closed and no more admitted.

To initiate and guide the children in the use of the gymnasium the Park Board is asked to employ a superintendent and an assistant to whom are to be committed the care of the grounds and their equipment.

A liberal estimate of the cost of installation of apparatus, including the preparation of the ground, places the amount at \$2,500. A competent superintendent should command a salary of about \$1,800, and an assistant \$1,000 per annum. These expenses, Mr. Weeks says, will constitute the essential items. Other expenses may arise, but such must be of trivial nature and amount.

The matter will be discussed in full at the next meeting of the Board, and if it be the sense of that body that the gymnasium should be built, work on it will be begun at once, so that it can be in readiness by Spring.

Lace Curtains! A special lot of Irish Point Curtains in a splendid variety of designs, reduced for this sale to 3.25, 4.50, 5.98 & 6.98 PAIR.

Irish Point Lace Bed Sets At Fifty Cents on the Dollar. Here are the prices, they cannot be matched anywhere. 4.50, 6.50, 7.50 & 8.98 SET.

Sofa Cushions! A magnificent Holiday assortment, over one thousand of them covered in Denim, Tapestry, Rich Brocades, Velours, Embroidered Tapestries, etc., 58c, 75c, 98c, 1.48 to 10.00 EACH.

A Great Variety of SMYRNA RUGS, ART SQUARES, TABLE COVERS, Etc., at Equally Low Prices.

Sixth Avenue, 20th to 21st Street.

GRAVE CHEATED FOR ONE DAY. Mrs. Drew Revived After Her Body Had Been Prepared for Burial.

LIVED 24 HOURS AFTER. Trouble Abounded in Her Matrimonial Life, and Followed Her to the End.

Washington, Dec. 13.—Justice White, in the United States Supreme Court, handed down an opinion to-day in the case of Thomas Bram, under sentence of death by the United States Circuit Court for the Massachusetts district for the murder of Captain Charles I. Nash and the mate, August W. Blomberg, of the bark Herbert Fuller, and also the wife of the captain, at sea in July, 1896.

BRAM WILL GET A NEW TRIAL.

Supreme Court Reversed the Conviction of the Sailor Murderer.

AN ERROR IN THE CASE. Confession to a Detective in a Halifax Prison Wrongfully Admitted as Evidence.

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The decision of the Circuit Court was reversed on the ground that the lower court erred in admitting the testimony of the detective with whom Bram conversed in Halifax.

The vessel on which the tragedy occurred was bound from Boston to South America, and after the crime was discovered her course was changed, and the first landing made at Halifax. A seaman named Brown was first arrested by his shipmates, charged with the commission of the crime, and afterwards, actuated by a statement of Brown, they also took Bram into custody.

Bram and Brown were both in irons when they reached Halifax. An examination into the case by the United States Consul at Halifax resulted in the holding of Bram and the sending of him to the United States for trial. While he was confined in Halifax Bram was stripped and questioned by a detective on behalf of the prosecution. This detective stated that Bram, the seaman, under duress of arrest, had made a confession saying that he had seen Bram commit the murders.

To this statement Bram was reported by the detective to have replied by denying his guilt in such language as to make his denial a confession by implication, saying "He didn't see me; how could he, from where he stood?"

This conversation was, Justice White said, admitted as a confession; hence the consideration of the measure of proof which resulted from it does not arise. The principal question involved was whether the admission was voluntary. It was in violation of the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which provides that no person shall be compelled to testify against himself. He said it was evident that the confession was not voluntary, and that therefore it should not have been admitted as testimony.

The lower court was directed to grant a new trial. Chief Justice Fuller and Justices Brewer and Brown dissented from the opinion of the majority of the court. Justice Brewer read a vigorous opinion giving his views. He held that the testimony of the detective in question, whose name was Power, was not open to objection. He said that the confession was given voluntarily, and that the confession was not involuntary, and that therefore it should not have been admitted as testimony.

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Middleport, N. Y., Dec. 13.—After being twice pronounced dead and once resuscitated, Mrs. Robert Drew, reputed to be the wealthiest woman in Niagara County, was today buried in the cemetery here. Some of her friends profess to believe that she is not yet dead, although the best physicians in the county have declared that her demise is beyond doubt.

Mrs. Drew was taken ill several weeks ago, and on Tuesday last she apparently died. The body was prepared for burial, but before it was placed in a coffin Mrs. Drew revived. She returned to full consciousness, and rallied so strongly that hopes were entertained of her ultimate recovery. Then a relapse came, and on the next day the physicians decided Mrs. Drew was dead.

Mrs. Drew's life was an eventful one, especially in her matrimonial experiences. She separated from her husband, and after that her life was made unhappy by almost perpetual litigation. Her husband brought suit for divorce on statutory grounds. Public sentiment favored the wife, because she had always borne a most excellent reputation, and Drew's triumph met with disapproval.

About a year ago Drew went to Kentucky and there married Cordelia Heater. To show his contempt for public opinion, Drew brought his second wife back to Middleport and took up his residence near the home of his first wife. The latter began suit to recover part of her husband's property, but in this she was unsuccessful. Five years later Drew died while visiting a friend in Akron. Both wives started for Akron to arrange to have the funeral and interment at Middleport. Wife No. 1, accompanied by her son, met the funeral cortege en route for Middleport. The two wives had a quarrel in the road, each claiming the body, and they had to be separated. Wife No. 2 triumphed and conducted the funeral.

When the Journal's injunction proceedings to prevent the city government from giving the Flatbush Company a valuable gas franchise came up before Judge Van Wyck yesterday, neither the Mayor nor Common Council appeared.

But the gas company was on hand with an application to be made defendant to the action, and not only heard on its merits, but to have it opened to enable the gas company to have the injunction order dissolved. In other words, the gas company wanted to have the suit brought against it instead of the city authorities who failed to appear.

Then it was discovered that Lawyer Albert E. Lamb, attorney for the Brooklyn Common Council, was also attorney for the Flatbush Gas Company. The hearing was adjourned until this morning.

Useful Christmas Presents! Useful Christmas Presents!

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Christmas Fun in Advance

WE'RE here for business—and so are the crowds of Christmas shoppers that fill the old store to overflowing; but all may as well have a good time over the Christmas buying, too, as well as over the giving, later.

There's enjoyment provided for everybody. See the toy show on the fifth floor and in the basement; listen to the fine music of the orchestrons, or to the music boxes and graphophones. See the tableau, "The Dream of Santa Claus," on the fourth floor, and the cats and birds on the floor below. If you're hungry, the restaurant is ready—fifth floor. If you're tired, rest both body and mind in the Picture Gallery.

You can't see it all in one day; come again soon. From to-morrow (Wednesday) until Friday, the 24th, this store will be open in the evenings until ten o'clock.

Dress A DRESS pattern always meets a need. For Christmas gifts, cotton dress stuffs come in ten-yard lengths, neatly banded; calicoes, 60c. a pattern; chintzes, \$1; seersuckers, \$1; printed flannelettes, 80c.; and percales, \$1.13 to \$1.31.

Woollen dress stuffs, put up in the same way, start at \$2.40; and they are also put up in boxes, including ample material for dress and garniture, at \$2.50 to \$6 a pattern.

Large lines of handsome stuffs are reduced for Christmas selling. Now 25c., from 37c.—Fancy two-toned suitings, 9 colorings. Now 37c., from 50c.—Silk mixed fancy chevrots, 4 colorings.

Now 37c., from 50c.—Fancy all-wool mixed chevrots, 6 colorings. Now 37c., from 50c.—All-wool fancy striped suitings, 9 colorings. Now 50c., from 65c.—All-wool fancy mixed chevrots, 5 colorings.

Now 50c., from 65c.—Mohair matelasse suitings in six two-color combinations. Fourth Avenue. Now 50c., from 85c.—Mohair matelasse Persian novelty, 5 colorings.

Now 60c., from 75c.—Two-toned satin diagonal, 5 colorings. Now 65c., from 85c.—Two-toned prunella, 6 colorings. Now 75c., from \$1.—Two-toned figured armure, 6 colorings.

Now \$1.25, from \$1.75.—Two-colored nattie mixtures, 4 combinations. Now \$1.75, from \$2.25.—Mohair chevrot velvet, irregular wavy cords, 7 colorings. Now \$4.00, from \$4.50.—Fancy chevrot chevrot, 4 colorings.

Now \$1, from \$1.50.—Silk mixed boucle novelty, 7 colorings. Now \$1.25, from \$1.75.—Fancy bourette mixed chevrot, 3 colorings. Now \$2, from \$2.50.—Satin bayadere prunella, 7 colorings.

Now \$2, from \$2.50.—Mohair soutache novelty, black with colors, 5 combinations. Rotunda.

Men's Clothing STYLISH cutaway coats and vests, in handsome black Thibets, diagonals, and unfinished worsteds, are made here to order, trimmed in first-class style, for \$18. At that price it's a "special" of course.

Underwear THREE bargains — not large quantities, but great value. We bought them before prices jumped. 20 dozen Black Ribbed wool Tights, ankle length, closed or open, were \$1.75, now \$1.

18 dozen fast black fine silk hose, double soles, high spliced heels, usually \$1.50, here \$1. A lot of fast black cotton hose, some unbleached soles, regularly 25c. and 38c., here 3 pairs for 50c.

Men's Scarfs. WE are going to sell some scarfs for half a dollar that you could not buy in the regular way for less than \$1—some \$1.50. In Tecks, puffs, four-in-hands, and folded ties—very fine and elegant goods! all 50 cents each.

To make elbow room, we double the space for the selling from now until Christmas. Broadway and Ninth Street.

Millinery. A LITTLE lot of fur-felt walking hats, mostly black, that were in the wrong hands, come here to be put in the right ones—yours. "College" hats, now 50c.; "Berkshire," 65c.; "Whitney," 75c. They're usually \$1, \$1.25 and \$1.50. Second floor.

Shoes. RUBBER boots for boys and girls—snow is coming. Fancy shoes for babies, pretty slippers for the baby's mother or sisters, and slippers for the men folks; more than a hundred sorts to pick from. A lot of women's high-class shoes, all welted and stitched, in nearly all late shapes, with or without tips, all kid or with cloth tops, the balance of regular \$3 lines, are grouped for rapid selling, priced at \$1.90 a pair.

Fourth Avenue and Ninth Street.

JOHN WANAMAKER Formerly A. T. Stewart & Co., Broadway, 4th ave., 9th and 10th sts.